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SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 24 December 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith, in the Arabic and English languages, the Final Communiqué (annex I) and the Abu Dhabi Declaration (annex II) adopted by the Supreme Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its thirteenth session, held at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 21 to 23 December 1992.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 30, 35, 46, 69, 74, 133 and 143, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Thani AL-SUWAIDI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX I

Final Communiqué adopted by the Supreme Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its Thirteenth Session, held in Abu Dhabi from the 21st to the 23rd December 1992.

In response to the gracious invitation of His Highness Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan al Nahyyan the President of the United Arab Emirates, the Supreme Council of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council held its Thirteenth Session in Abu Dhabi in the period from the 27th to the 29th/6/1413 Hejra, the 21st to the 23rd December 1992, in the presence of their Majesties and their Highnesses:

H.H. Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan al Nahyyan
President of the United Arab Emirates

H.H. Sheikh Issa Bin Salman al Khalifah
The Amir of the State of Bahrein

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz al Saoud
King of Saudi Arabia

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said
Sultan of Oman

H.H. Sheikh Khalifah Bin Hamad Al Thani
The Amir of the State of Qatar

H.H. Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Jaber
The Amir of the State of Kuwait

The Progress accomplished by the Cooperation Council

The Supreme Council reviewed the progress achieved by the Cooperation Council in all domains in the light of the results and the recommendations made by the Ministerial Committees, and studied the necessary steps required to consolidate relations of cooperation and complementary interdependence between their Member States, motivated by a firm conviction in the existence of common goals and of a shared destiny that bind them together, and in conformity with the goals set in their Basic Charter.

The Supreme Council, in expressing its satisfaction with the achievements of the glorious march of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council, reaffirms its adhesion to the goal of realising the aspirations of the citizens of this region so as to enable it to face all international and regional challenges and developments that make it mandatory to reinforce the existing brotherly framework for cooperation and complementary interdependence, to surmount all obstacles that may obstruct collective action, and to take all the necessary steps capable of elevating this action to advanced stages of cooperation in the various fields so as to realise those aspirations and hopes.

The implementation of the Resolutions of the Security Council regarding the Iraqi Regime's Aggression.

The Supreme Council discussed the political and security developments in the Gulf region and the progress achieved in the implementation of the Security Council Resolutions regarding the Iraqi Regime's Aggression. The Council takes note of the continuation of that Regime in its procrastination in implementing basic elements of the relevant Security Council Resolutions and of its infringement of the conditions of the cease- fire through its refusal to release prisoners from Kuwait and from other countries, its refusal to adhere to the findings and resolutions of the Technical Committee constituted by the United Nations to demarcate the frontiers between the two countries, its non

implementation of the Security Council Resolutions regarding the payment of compensation funds in view of its legal responsibility for the damages incurred by its aggression, its slow progress in returning all the legal assets and goods that belong to Kuwait, and its procrastination in the removal of all its arms of total destruction.

The Supreme Council condemns the Iraqi Regime for its refusal to comply fully with all Security Council Resolutions, for its continuing threat to the security and stability of the region, for its creation of a climate of grave concerns and tensions and for its continued distortion of historic facts in its expansionist claims to Kuwaiti territory, thus destabilising the region and posing a serious threat to its security by creating a climate of permanent tensions which cannot be ended before the full compliance by the Iraqi Regime with all relevant Security Council resolutions adopted as a result of its Aggression.

The Supreme Council affirms its support for the steps taken by the Security Council in this regard, and calls on the International Community of Nations to continue excercising pressure on the Iraqi Regime until it fully complies by implementing all the Security Council Resolutions, especially those regarding the release of Kuwaiti and Other Nationals held prisoners. It reaffirms the necessity for, and the importance of, a continued firm and strong International Stand towards that Regime, and lauds the decision taken by the Security Council in adopting Resolution 773 which emphasises the inviolability and sanctity of frontiers between Kuwait and Iraq. It welcomes and expresses its appreciation for the steps undertaken by the Committee constituted by the United Nations to demarcate on the ground the frontiers between the two countries. It reaffirms its high concern for the national integrity and regional security of Iraq and holds the Iraqi Regime fully responsible for the acts of repression and bloody violence suffered by the Iraqi people. It affirms the full responsibility of the Iraqi Regime for all the deprivations and sufferings of the Iraqi people as a result of the Regime's refusal to fully implement Security Council Resolutions 706 and 712 which deal with the question of providing the country's medical and food supplies.

Relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the issue of the Islands

The Council, in taking note of the report given by His Highness Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyyan, President of the United Arab Emirates and the Chairman of the present Session, regarding the measures taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Island of Abu Musa, and regarding the continuing Iranian occupation of the Islands of Bigger Tunb and the Smaller Tunb, deplores these measures and the continued occupation, since they represent a violation of the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the United Arab Emirates, and pose a threat to the stability and security of the Region.

The Council, in expressing its deep regret and its grave concern as a result of the unjustifiable Iranian action, since it violates the declared intention of developing relations between the two sides, and contravenes the very principles on which such relations between the member States and the Islamic Republic of Iran should be based, reaffirms its conviction that the development of relations between the two sides is linked to the consolidation of trust between them, and to the implementation by Iran of steps that would conform to its adhesion to the principles of good neighbourly relations, of the respect for the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the States of the region, and for the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other States. The Council further affirms that the continuation of the Iranian occupation of the three islands, and of the measures implemented by the Islamic Republic of Iran on the island of Abu Musa, represent a serious contravention of these principles and of the declared intention to develop relations between the two sides. It calls on the Islamic Republic of Iran to cancel all the new measures it implemented in the Island of Abu Musa, and to put an end to its occupation of the islands of the Bigger Tunb and the Smaller Tunb, which rightfully belong to the United Arab Emirates.

The Council affirms its total solidarity with, and its full support for the stand adopted by the United Arab Emirates, and supports all the peaceful steps and means which it deems appropriate to restore its sovereignty on its three Islands based on International legitimacy and collective security.

The present Arab situation

The Council reviewed the peace process in the Middle East which aims at bringing the Arab-Israeli conflict to an end and at finding a just, comprehensive and permanent solution to the Palestinian question based on Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and on the principle of land for peace. It reaffirms its commitment to support the present peace initiatives and lauds the constructive role undertaken by the two patrons of the peace Conference. It expresses its hope for a comprehensive, just and permanent resolution of the Israeli-Arab conflict and of the Palestinian question which would ensure the withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Arab territories including the Holy City of Jerusalem, and the guarantee of the legitimate National Rights of the Palestinian People, including its right to self-determination, thus establishing a solid foundation for the security and stability of the Middle east Region.

The Council strongly condemns the continuation of Israeli acts of repression, violence and expansionism in the occupied Arab territories and the recent steps taken by the Occupation forces to expel Palestinian citizens from their Homeland. It reaffirms its conviction that the policy of mass expulsions, the construction of settlements, and the acts of brutality, murder, and arbitrary arrests represent a total contravention of all the Charters, Laws and Conventions of the International Community of Nations as well as of the present Peace Process and are in discord with the climate of the New World Order

The Council registers its appreciation for Resolution 799 adopted by the Security Council which strongly condemned the mass expulsion by the Israeli Occupation Forces of hundreds of Palestinian civilians, reaffirmed the validity of the Fourth Geneva Convention to all occupied Palestinian territories including the Holy City of Jerusalem, and called on the Israeli Authorities to ensure an immediate and safe return of all those expelled to the occupied territories. The Supreme Council strongly condemns the arbitrary and unjust Israeli measures of expulsion as a contravention of Human Rights, a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and a threat to the Peace process in the Middle East.

It calls on the Security Council to do all that it deems necessary to enforce the full compliance by the Israeli Occupation Forces with International Conventions and to ensure a speedy return of the expelled civilians to their Homeland.

The Council further condemns the continued Israeli aggressions against the brother State of Lebanon which have led to the shedding of the blood of innocent children and civilians and to the pre-emption of any serious peace endeavour. It calls on the Security Council to excercise real pressure on the Israeli Authorities so as to make them renounce their policies of expansionism and aggression, adhere to the principle of the respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon, and to fully and unconditionally comply with the Security Council Resolution 425 and to withdraw its troops promptly and without further delay from the South of Lebanon.

In the context of its review of Arab relations, the Supreme Council welcomes the results achieved by the Sixth Foreign Ministerial Meeting of the States adhering to the Damascus Declaration which convened in Doha in September 1992, and which reaffirmed the conviction that the Damascus Declaration is a viable framework for reconciliation, understanding and dialogue and a core paradigm for a New Arab Order in the context of the Arab League, in which other Arab States can participate by sharing the political vision of the Eight Participating States and their conviction in the need to consolidate and strengthen Arab collective action through ensuring a common background of trust and through the consolidation of relations of co-existence and close cooperation based on the respect for their sovereignty, independence and the existence of mutual interests that bind them together, as well as the repect for the principle of the rightful sovereignty of every Arab State over its natural economic resources.

The Council follows the developments in the brother State of Somalia and expresses its grave concern for the suffering of the Somali people as a consequence of the devastating civil War. It lauds Security Council Resolution 794 regarding the despatching of International Troops to Somalia to provide the security preconditions for humanitarian relief efforts. It reaffirms its decision to support those constructive International efforts in which three Gulf Council Member States participate directly. It calls on the various fighting national parties in Somalia to stop the shedding of blood, to renounce their differences and to put ahead the national interests of their country. It further calls on them to cooperate with the present international efforts and expresses the hope that stability and security will be re-established in their country. It calls on the International Community of Nations to support the current efforts that are being deployed by authority of the Security Council to ensure the return of Peace and stability to Somalia and to guarantee its territorial integrity and unity.

The Serbian aggression against the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina

The Council follows with grave concern and deep regret the continuing degradation of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina as a result of the on-going aggression of irregular Serbian troops supported by Serbia and by Montenegro, their contravention of International Law and of the Fourth Geneva Convention, their violation of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and their carrying out of the worst crimes of racial extermination, terrorism, mass expulsion and rape. The Supreme Council condemns the aggression perpetrated by Serbia and Montenegro. It calls on the Security Council to undertake all the necessary measures, including the use of force, under Article 42 of Chapter Seven which was designed to restore

International Peace and security, to force aggressive powers to comply with Resolutions based on International legitimacy, to prevent acts that could change population structures or lead to regional territorial gains, to deter aggressors by depriving them from potential gains of their aggression, and thereby to ensure the withdawal of regular and irregular Serbian troops from Bosnia-Herzogovina while bringing to account all those responsible for crimes committed against humanity in accordance with the Geneva Conventions.

The Council reaffirms its full solidarity and its total support for the Republic of Bosnia-Herzogovina in its tragic trials and in its heroic struggle for its independence and for its territorial integrity and unity. It lauds the resolutions adopted by the Foreign Ministers of the Islamic Conference during their Sixth Extraordinary Session. It calls on the Security Council to lift the Arms embargo imposed on Bosnia-Herzogovina so as to enable it to defend itself against its aggressors and to safeguard its survival in accordance with the legitimate right to Self-defence ensh[illegible]ed in Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. It calls on the international community of Nations to give every support it can to Bosnia-Herzogovina, motivated by the conviction that the deterrence of Aggression is a collective International responsibility.It further calls on it to adopt a firm and united stand to implement the Resolutions of the Security Council and of the London Conference.

The Aggression against the Babri Mosque

The Council expresses its deep deploration and its condemnation of the aggression committed against the religious Shrines of Moslems in India as symbolised in the demolition of the ancient and historic Babri Mosque.

It calls on the Indian Government to shoulder its reponsibilities fully by implementing further measures to protect Moslems in India, to respect their religious Rights and safeguard their religious shrines, and to rebuild the Mosque as promised by the Indian Prime Minister.

Welcoming the New American Administration

The Council affirms that the current stage being witnessed by the International Community of Nations represents the ideal conditions for the consolidation of International cooperation and for the renouncement of all acts that are considered a flagrant violation of established International Laws and Conventions. In this context it expresses its appreciation and its gratitude to His Excellency Mr. George Bush, President of the United States of America, for his honourable and brave stands, for the spirit of cooperation shown by the United States of America under his leadership, and especially for the efforts he deployed in the liberation of Kuwait and in the promotion of the Peace Process in the Middle East. The Council looks forward to the continuation of fruitful cooperation with the Administration of President-Elect Clinton in the service of International stability, peace and security.

Military and Security Cooperation

The Council reviewed the different stages achieved in the field of Military and Security Cooperation between the member States in light of the recommendations submitted by the Ministers of Defence. Fully aware of the needs of the current situation which make it necessary to consolidate a collective approach to security, and convinced that the security of the Member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council is an integral and indivisible whole, the Supreme Council approved the recommendations made by the Ministers of Defence, as well as the Recommendations of the Ministerial Council in the field of military cooperation which constitutes the substance of collective defence.

Economic Cooperation

The Council expressed its satisfaction with the achievement of the Committee for Financial Cooperation in outlining a unified Customs Tariff Agreement to be implemented in stages, and requested the committee to prepare the Basic Regulations for this system and to submit it to the next session of the Supreme Council for adoption. The Council aproved the adoption of the new Regulations for Retail Trade. It further approved the new Regulations for Patents in the Member States and the Basic Charter for a Patents Office which will be based in the Secretariat General.

The Council affirmed its adhesion to the Resolution adopted at the Doha Summit to establish an Arab Gulf Council Aid Programme to support the economic development of Arab States and resolved to begin the implementation of this Programme in accordance with the principles and aims incorporated in the Resolution adopted by the eleventh session of the Supreme Council's meeting in Doha establishing this programme, and in line with the Accord reached by the Supreme Council in its twelfth session in Kuwait. It instructed the Secretariat General to convene a meeting of the Committee in charge of this programme to fix at the beginning of every year the commitments of the Fund and its financial programmes in accordance with its Charter. The 1993 financial commitments will be resolved in May of the coming year.

The Council expressed its deep appreciation and gratitude to His Highness Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyyan and to his Government and his People for their warm welcome , their gracious hospitality and their sentiments of true brotherhood. It praised the excellent preparations and the great efforts made to ensure the comfort of the participating delegations and to ensure the success of the Summit.

The Council expresses its deep appreciation for the enormous efforts deployed by H.E. Mr. Abdullah Yaqoob Bishara as Secretary General of the Council since the first days of its establishment, for his active participation in the progress achieved by the Council through dedicating a great deal of his time and his vast experience during the past years. It wishes His Excellency every success in any endeavour that may be entrusted to him in the future. The Council welcomes the appointment of H.E. Sheikh Fahim Bin Sultan al Qasimi as Secretary General of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council for the coming three years.

The Council looks forward to its fourteenth session in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in December 1993 in response to the gracious invitation of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, King of Saudi Arabia.

ANNEX II

The Abu Dhabi Declaration adopted by the Supreme Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its Thirteenth Session held in Abu Dhabi, from the 21st to 23rd December 1992

In the Name of God The Most Merciful The most Compassionate

Inspired by the animus of kinship that binds the Gulf family closely together in a shared destiny and a common programme of collective action;

Concerned as Member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council to give a concrete form to their spirit of cooperation, solidarity and inseparable association;

Desirous to reinforce the level of coordination that is actually prevalent in the domains of politics, of security, and of economic and social activities, with the aim of achieving an advanced stage of complementary interdependence between them;

Guided by the purposes and principles incorporated in the Basic Charter of the Council which was founded by their Majesties and by their Highnesses the leaders of the Member States of the Council;

Bearing in mind the momentous events, changes, and transformations both regional and international which demand from Member States the will to act with a collective and united vision which would take into consideration the higher interests of the Arab and Islamic nation and of their crucial causes;

In conformity with the commitment of the Member States to the principles and goals embodied in the Covenants and Resolutions of the Arab League, of the Damascus Declaration, of the Islamic Conference and of the United Nations;

Their Majesties and their Highnesses proclaim herewith:

1- The confirmation of their adhesion to the Kuwait Declaration issued by the Twelfth session of the Supreme Council;

2- The affirmation by the Member States:

of their respect for good nighbourly relations as a mandatory and rightful basis for all their regional and international dealings;

of their commitment to respect the independence, the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of all States;

of their adhesion to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other States;

and of their respect for the rightful sovereignty of all States over their natural resources;

3- The endorsement of dialogue and peaceful negotiations as a mandatory medium for the settlement of inter-State disputes in conformity and harmony with the United Nations Charter and with International Laws and conventions;

the rejection of the use of force or the threat of its use in international relations;

the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force.

In this context the leaders of the Member States of the Council affirm the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over the Islands of the Bigger Tunb, the Smaller Tunb, and Abu Musa which form an integral part of the United Arab Emirates. They further proclaim their categoric rejection of the continued occupation by the Islamic Republic of Iran of those Islands that belong to the United Arab Emirates.

4- The reaffirmation of their desire to promote the efforts and endeavours that aim at reinforcing the indigenous military and security potential of the Member States so as to ensure the security and stability of the region;

5- Their belief that cooperation and coordination between the Member States of the Council form a tributary that flows with others to forge together a collective Arab paradigm that must be based on new foundations and that should be driven by a fresh dynamic which would guarantee the adhesion of all Arab States to, and their respect for, the Convenants and Treaties endorsed by them in the framework of the Arab League.

Therewith the Member States of the Council reaffirm their commitment to the principles and aims incorporated in the Damascus Declaration since it constitutes a new formula for a fresh vision for concerted Arab action and for serious solidarity;

6- The support for all Arab and International efforts and initiatives that aim at reaching a comprehensive, just and permanent solution to the Middle East question based on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and on the principles of International Law, and thus ensuring the withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent State.

7- To support International efforts that aim at alleviating the human sufferings of the brotherly people of Somalia;

and to urgently call on the International community of nations to take immediate steps to put an end to the acts of genocide perpetrated against the people of Bosnia Herzogovina while forwarding prompt humanitarian relief aid to them.